

GERMANS LOSE 8000 IN OPENING MOVE OF DRIVE

Attacks on British Lines South of Ypres Prove Very Costly

ENGLISH FRONT INTACT

PARIS, Dec. 27. Paris believes that the beginning of a new German offensive on the western front is only a matter of days.

For the last week, while their guns battered the Allied positions day and night, the Kaiser's troops have been feeling out the ground in France, probing for a weak spot at which an attack can be launched.

Where this new assault will come is not certain. It may be started on the northern front, in Artois or around Ypres; along the Belgian front, where a new effort to reach Calais may be attempted; in Champagne, where fierce battles took place in the autumn; in the Argonne, where the Crown Prince has tried repeatedly to loose the French hold on Verdun, or in the Nevon sector, the sector nearest Paris.

That an attack will be made at some point along the western battle line in the very near future is taken here for granted. For a month reports have come that the Germans were sending troops and guns to the lines in Flanders and France. An especially heavy concentration was reported in the north, along the Belgian coast.

In the last fortnight has come increasing evidence that the Kaiser's troops were picking the spot at which the new offensive could be launched. Raids have been attempted at different points in the line—last night the strength of the Allied positions in some sector.

One of these raids took place on December 21 between Ypres and Armentieres, where the Germans attacked the British lines in force. But Sir Douglas Haig's men drove back the Teutons, who gained not an inch of ground and lost 8000 men, according to a dispatch to La Liberté.

The Amsterdam correspondent of the Central News Agency telegraphs that Austrian troops and another contingent of Turks have arrived in Belgium. Eight thousand Austrians were reported to have passed through Charleroi on their way to the front.

The French War Office today issued the following report: "Nothing was reported during the night except in Lorraine, where our artillery bombarded the enemy's work in the region of Bloncourt, Gremecey, southwest of Chateau Salins."

I CANNONI ITALIANI SEGUITANO A BATTERE LE OPERE DI LARDARO

Le Forze Italiane Sbarcate a Valona Sono Giunte al Confine della Grecia, Verso Argirocastro

VALANGHE AUSTRIACHE

ROMA, 27 Dicembre. Il Ministero della Guerra pubblica ieri sera il seguente comunicato ufficiale circa le operazioni di guerra sul fronte italiano:

"Sulla fronte trentino-tirolese e su quella della Carnia si sono avuti duelli di artiglieria. Il nemico ha bombardato i villaggi abitati di Lonallitch ed ha causato danni anche facendo rotolare enormi massi di ghiaccio dai fianchi della montagna sopra Loppio e facendoli cadere su Riomarera, nella vallata dell'Adige. Noi abbiamo bombardato numerose colonne in marcia e depositi di munizioni.

"Sul fronte dell'Isone non vi è nulla di nuovo da riportare. "Vi sono stati" di artiglieria anche in altri punti del fronte, specialmente nella Valle Giudicaria, tra i forti di Lardaro e le nostre batterie sulla parte opposta."

Il corrispondente ateniese del Daily Telegraph manda al suo giornale che parte delle truppe italiane che sbarcarono recentemente a Valona in Albania, si sono spinte verso il sud ed hanno raggiunto il confine della Grecia, probabilmente nella zona di Argirocastro, che era stata occupata dalla Grecia quando l'Italia occupò Valona.

A proposito di questa avanzata delle truppe italiane di Valona verso il confine dell'Epuro greco telegrafano da Atene all'agenzia Havas di Parigi che il ministro di Grecia accreditato presso il governo italiano in modo amichevole al governo italiano di spiegare gli scopi di questa avanzata. Il governo italiano avrebbe dato al ministro Coromilas spiegazioni di soddisfazione della Grecia ed avrebbe chiesto anche il concorso della Grecia. Si dice che le trattative continuano sulla base che l'Italia rispetterà i diritti della Grecia nell'Epuro.

Intanto da una spedizione americana di soccorso per gli albanesi appena tornata dall'Albania si apprende che i greci hanno distrutto centinaia di villaggi albanesi meridionali e che i serbi ne avrebbero distrutti altri 25.

Il capo della spedizione, W. W. Howard, che è giunto a Roma, ha dichiarato che durante lo scorso anno ben 150,000 albanesi sono morti di fame perché il raccolto andò perduto in gran parte ed alla popolazione normale albanese di un milione di individui si aggiunsero 200,000 rifugiati serbi e 20,000 prigionieri austriaci. I serbi non avevano con loro che moneta senza alcun valore.

LA GRECIA E GLI ALLEATI. Si hanno oggi notizie contraddittorie circa quello che la Grecia si propone di fare in vista di operazioni di guerra da parte di truppe austro-bulgare e tedesche contro la base degli alleati a Salonica. Da una parte si dice che il Kaiser sarebbe riuscito a convincere re Costantino a permettere che truppe bulgare operino in territorio greco, mentre d'altra parte si afferma che il governo greco è ben deciso ad opporsi non tutti i mesi a qualsiasi tentativo di questo genere. Il re Costantino avrebbe telegrafato al Kaiser di non poter permettere che truppe bulgare o turche entrassero in territorio greco.

Telegrammi da Atene dicono che gran parte della flotta anglo-francese che operava nella zona del Dardanelli si è concentrata nel Golfo di Salonica e si prepara a cooperare con le truppe di terra per respingere un possibile attacco da parte degli austro-tedeschi dalla parte di terra.

COME AFFONDO IL PORTO SAID. Da Milano giungono particolari circa il sottrimento del piroscafo italiano Porto Said, che fu affondato da un sottomarino austriaco. Nel passeggeri ad un uomo dell'equipaggio perirono, mentre 150 persone furono salvate.

Un sottomarino italiano ripose al radiotelegramma con cui il comandante d'una nave austriaca lo invitava a consegnare a bordo una bomba. Il sottomarino, che si trovava nel porto di Durum, un piroscafo che aveva assistito all'affondamento del Porto Said, aveva stato il sottile e si era affondato.

WAR TRADE ONLY BOOST TO U. S. EXPORTS, NOT THE NEW TARIFF

Statistics Show Falling Off Under Democratic Schedule, While in 1914-15 Period War Munitions Sale Is Sole Cause of Prosperity

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—The Republican Publicity Association, through its president, ex-Senator Jonathan Bourne, Jr., of Oregon, today gave out the following statement at its Washington headquarters:

"Last spring, speaking to the members of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, Mr. Roosevelt said: 'I beg you gentlemen, not to be persuaded by the daily news columns of the press into the belief that our foreign trade lies chiefly in what we may call, for lack of a better name, "war orders," that is not so.'"

"But it is so, and Government statistics prove it. "Although war was declared August 1, 1914, it was not until September that the influx of orders from the belligerents began to show appreciably in our export trade. Hence, for the purpose of comparison, let us deal with three 12-month periods of export trade in what may properly be considered "munitions of war," namely, September, 1913, to August, 1914, a normal period under Republican tariff laws; September, 1913, to August, 1914, eleven months under the Democratic tariff law, and September, 1914, to August, 1915, a full year under the stimulus of "war orders."

Table with 3 columns: Sept. 1913 to Aug. 1914, Sept. 1914 to Aug. 1915, Sept. 1914 to Aug. 1916. Rows include Articles, Horses, Automobiles, Trucks, Aluminum manufactures, etc.

Total munitions \$506,224,019. The increase in export of refined sugar for the 1913-14 period is due mainly to the fact that in August, 1914, Great Britain bought heavily in our market.

The cathedral in the Vosges celebrated Christmas with special services as fighting continues. Christmas Day in the Vosges Lines With Special Services as Fighting Continues

GUNS ROAR "PEACE ON EARTH," ALSACE CHURCHES ECHO IT

By WILLIAM PHILIP SIMMS. While the great pipe organs trumpeted "La Délivrance" and "Le Noël," Adam, guns on Hartmannswelkerkopf boomed an accompaniment like the roar of distant surf.

Belasco never staged anything as dramatic as this. On Christmas Eve I watched the bombardment of German positions north of Aitkirch. Through the range finder the houses of the city seemed only across the street.

While the French guns continued hurling Christmas gifts of high explosives toward the Germans, some one in the party quoted the "Peace on earth; good will toward men" to a young French officer, a graduate of the St. Cyr Military School in the month when the war began.

"You think man-killing and Christmas anachronisms?" he smiled. "Well, Americans thought perhaps an unofficial truce would be observed in honor of the occasion. It was suggested that it was a celestial army, not an individual that first proclaimed the doctrine of 'Peace on earth, good will toward men.'"

"It was the world's most important proclamation. Today the French army is fighting to uphold it. We do not stop fighting on Christmas because we are fighting for Christmas," Kris Kringle—for all he represents—for the right to live without the mailed fist forever poised over our heads—for the principle of good will toward neighbors—for the right to enjoy Santa Claus in our homes without danger.

"It was Germany that violated both the spirit and letter of the law quoted by St. Luke, and France and the Allies will not stop fighting until they punish her."

SOLDIERS GET PRESENTS. In the meantime the guns barked on. The men at the front either were too busy, or were not inclined to observe Christmas. They received boxes of delicacies and other gifts from the Government, from their homes or from organizations, opened them casually and emptied the contents into their pockets or elsewhere. They then immediately resumed the occupation of war.

Our party attended midnight Mass in an Alsatian town near Hartmannswelkerkopf. The rule was not to remain about after 9 p. m.



DAVID LLOYD-GEORGE. A new movement has been started to make him the British Premier, displacing Asquith.

ASQUITH MAY YIELD POST TO LLOYD-GEORGE

Munitions Minister's Critical Speech Starts New Attack by Cabal

RALLY ROUND WELSHMAN

LONDON, Dec. 27. The Asquith Ministry was under heavy attack today. Using David Lloyd-George's charge "too late" as their slogan, influential London newspapers have launched a campaign for a reorganization of the Ministry.

Continued attacks on the cabinet—from within as well as from without—have weakened the strength of the present Government to such a point that impartial observers would not be surprised by sensational developments in the near future.

While the congregation knelt and prayed and the priest prepared the holy sacrament, the guns kept on belching up and down the line as a refrain to the organ song and the prayer. They were interpreting their captives' "Peace on earth; good will toward men."

REBEL TOWMENT WAXES IN EGYPT AND IN INDIA

Failure at Dardanelles May Destroy Prestige Among Moslems

BERLIN, Dec. 27.—Rapid increase in revolutionary sentiment in England's colonial possessions in Egypt and the Orient—particularly India—was predicted today by German officials as a result of the collapse of the Allies' position at Gallipoli peninsula. They said they looked to see the Moslems under British domination rise and overthrow their masters.

The belief in Berlin is that the Allies had hoped by victory at the Dardanelles to open the way to Constantinople and by the capture of that city to shatter the influence of Turkey among millions of followers of the Moslem religion.

"It can be stated," said Captain Lothar Persius, the German naval expert, today, "that the Dardanelles undertaking is now definitely wrecked. This fiasco will degrade, if not destroy, British prestige in the eastern world."

One Year Ago Today. British cruisers, assisted by seaplanes, attack German naval base at Cuxhaven, and do considerable damage.

German spy seized while attempting to enter Gibraltar disguised as a Moor. Italian cruiser joins American cruisers to protect foreigners in Turkey.

Hamilton, Elgin or Waltham Watches. Jewel gold filled. Value \$15.

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"I BELIEVE in TEMPERANCE. . . But let me tell you there are companies of men of genius, into which I sometimes go, where the atmosphere of intellect and sentiment is so much more stimulating than alcohol that if I saw fit to take wine it would be to keep me sober. Among the gentlemen I have known few, if any, were ruined by drinking."

TO those who still mistakenly cling to Prohibition FALLACIES, the above forceful views of Dr. Holmes, a man of deep learning and insight, are submitted for the consideration of the thoughtful.

Philadelphia Lager Beer Brewers' Association. The Next Article Will Appear Saturday, January 1st

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AUSTRIANS ROLL GREAT BOULDERS ON ITALIANS

Artillery Combats Continue in Tyrol and Carnic Alps, Rome Reports

LONDON, Dec. 27. Huge boulders rolled by the Austrians down the mountain slopes on the Italian troops in the Riomarera valley was an "incident" of yesterday's fighting in the Tyrol.

The Italians were smashed by the man-made avalanche, and suffered serious losses. The Italian official statement, issued in Rome last night, says: "During the day there have been artillery duels on some positions of the front, especially in the Giudicaria valley, where the Italian forts in the Lardaro group and the opposing Austrian batteries were engaged."

Intense artillery duels have occurred along the Tyrol-Trentino front, the Austrian batteries purposely inflicting damage on the inhabited regions. "In the Riomarera Valley the Austrians rolled huge boulders down the slopes, causing severe damage. "Our artillery fire fell among troops and an ammunition train on the march. "There is nothing new on the Isonzo front."

The official report of the Austrian headquarters says: "Italian front—Yesterday the Italian artillery fire was concentrated against the bridgehead positions at Tolmino. Their bombardment continued throughout the day. An Italian company which advanced on the north side of Monte Altissimo was repulsed."

On the other hand, the anti-conscriptionists pointed to the threats of the Labor chiefs and the speech of the Irish leader, John Redmond, in Commons as indicating the danger facing adoption of compulsory enlistment.

Unless the situation is met tonight, the leaders now in opposition to Premier Asquith expect to renew the fight on the Prime Minister in Commons, reopening discussion of the Dardanelles and Balkan affairs.

The Northcliffe and other leading London papers have rallied to the support of Lloyd-George.

SEVEN LOST WHEN LINER WAS SUNK BY AUSTRIANS

Italian Destroyer Rescues 150 From Porto Said

PARIS, Dec. 27.—Six passengers and one member of the crew perished when the Italian liner Porto Said was sunk in the Mediterranean by an Austrian submarine, according to Milan dispatches today. Other passengers and members of the crew, numbering about 150, were rescued.

An Italian destroyer answered the liner's call for aid and pursued the submarine several miles, but the Austrian escaped by diving. The destroyer, after rescuing the Porto Said's passengers and crew, took into port at Derna, a Greek steamer that had watched the sinking of the liner in the belief that she shielded the submarine's approach.

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ALLIES MASS SHIPS TO COVER SALONICA

Dardanelles Fleet Concentrated to Protect Base at Greek Port

ATHENS, Dec. 27. A considerable portion of the allied fleet at the Dardanelles has been concentrated at Salonica.

The city is under the guns of the warships, which are prepared to co-operate with the shore batteries if the Germans and Bulgarians penetrate Greek territory and attack at Salonica. The weather at Salonica is very stormy, which is hindering the work of the patrols that constantly search for German, Austrian and Turkish submarines.

The German official statement yesterday respecting the Balkan theatre said: "The situation is unchanged." The British and French War Offices make no mention of any developments in that field.

German heavy artillery in the Lake Dorian region continued to throw shells against the Anglo-French defenses yesterday, according to unofficial dispatches from Athens, but there is nothing to indicate that the expected attack on Salonica has begun.

In the absence of news of real activity by either the Teutonic or allied forces on the Salonica front, suspense in London respecting the situation in the Balkans is reaching an acute stage. It is felt that the troops defending Salonica are on the eve of what will perhaps prove to be one of the most important battles of the war.

If the Germans are held it means a partial collapse at least of their designs against the Suez Canal and Egypt. If they are thrown back it means not only the entire collapse of those designs, but will in all likelihood prove the turning point in the war. On the other hand, if the Anglo-British forces are defeated and driven from Salonica the cause of the Entente Powers will have received possibly its most serious reverse.

United States Senator Roles Penrose will submit his candidacy for State leadership to the members of the Republican party at the primary election to be held next May.

An authoritative announcement was made last night that Senator Penrose would have his name placed on the primary ballot for his old seat in the Republican National Committee, from which he was ousted in 1912.

The position of National Committeeman is now held by Henry G. Wasson, of Pittsburgh, who was elected when Roosevelt swept the State four years ago. It is not known whether Wasson will be a candidate to succeed himself.

The Penrose candidacy will be a clean-cut fight for State leadership, provided the Vares and Governor Brumbaugh carry out their plans to capture the delegation to the national convention, as it involves control of the Republican State Committee.

Penrose leaders throughout the State have been better organizing their following for weeks past, and a complete Penrose ticket for the State Committee will be placed in the field.

That Gift You Forgot can be sent any day before New Year's without trespassing on propriety. And there's no better way to make up for tardiness of the sort than to send a bottle of our gardenia Toilet Water—50c & \$1.25. Or most any American or imported perfume. We have nearly all of them. 25c to \$15.

LLEWELLYN'S Philadelphia's Standard Drug Store 1518 Chestnut Street Open every day till midnight

Facts Versus Fallacies

Fact is a Real State of things. FALLACY is an apparently genuine but really illogical statement or argument.

DR. Oliver Wendell Holmes, father of Justice Holmes of the Supreme Court of the United States, was not only an eminent physician, but he was in FACT generally recognized as one of the clearest thinkers of his day, and a most valued contributor to American literature.

DR. Holmes denounced Prohibition and when a second attempt was made to fasten a prohibitory law on his State (Massachusetts) after the statute had been tested as futile and repealed, he was one of the leaders in the fight against it.

DR. Holmes' opinion on this subject was well expressed in one of his famous "Autocrat of the Breakfast Table" articles, wherein he referred to French wine with enthusiasm. In reply to a divinity student's question, whether he believed in a diet of "rum," the old autocrat was quickened to say:

"RUM I take to be the name which unwashed moralists apply alike to the product distilled from molasses and the noblest juices of the vineyard. Burgundy 'in all its sunset glow' is rum. Champagne, 'soul of the grape of Eastern France,' is rum. Hock which our friend the poet speaks of as:

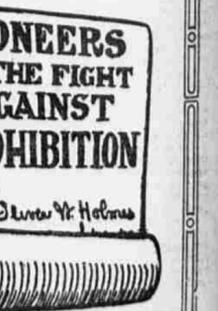
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PIONEERS IN THE FIGHT AGAINST PROHIBITION. SIGNED Dr. Oliver W. Holmes

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